

women's clubs, insurance companies and welfare societies that are engaged in various forms of health work, should actively oppose Number 16—the Chiropractic Initiative, and Number 20—the Osteopathic Initiative. If all these agencies are actively interested in defeating Nos. 16 and 20, we can assure them the effective co-operation of the League and every ethical member of the medical profession. A triumph for quackery will not mean a defeat of the medical profession, but it will mean that hospitals, universities, laboratories, health departments and all valuable health agencies will be jeopardized, because you cannot impede the practice and progress of modern medicine without, at the same time, undermining the various agencies and fundamental sciences that the medical profession employs in its worthy work.

#### SALARIES VERSUS FEES

The office of the State Society is receiving a very considerable number of inquiries as to whether or not it is ethical for a physician to work for a salary or whether all work should be strictly upon a fee basis. The editor is not prepared to answer this question until the Council or the House of Delegates have expressed themselves.

It is interesting, however, to look at a few facts and estimates: It is probable that more than 30 per cent of the licensed physicians of the United States are men who are receiving salary compensation of one sort or another. It is probable that a slightly smaller percentage of the members of the California State Society are also receiving salary compensation. Salaries are paid for full-time work, part-time work, or more or less indirectly as piece work or "for service" compensation. It is, of course, a fact that medical departments of the Army, Navy, U. S. Public Health Service and the medical department of every one of our Federal Bureaus of every description are operated by full-time salaried physicians. Teachers in medical schools and universities receive part-time or full-time salaries. It is also a fact that the vast majority of state and county, city and municipal health officers are paid what amounts to salary compensation, usually for part-time service. A large number of insurance companies of various kinds have medical departments of salaried men, either salaried in full or for part time. Most of the insurance companies have their medical advisory boards in their home offices upon a salary basis for part-time work. The majority of large industrial and commercial organizations—railroads, telegraph companies, industrial plants, lumber companies, mines and similar organizations—have their own salaried personnel constituting their medical departments.

This phase of medical and public health development on a salary basis is increasing everywhere. Transportation lines, railroad companies, and steamship lines employ thousands of physicians on full-time salaries. Many physicians themselves and large numbers of hospitals engage a certain percentage of their assistants on full-time or part-time salaries. Publications, including

newspapers and magazines, employ salaried medical departments. News service bureaus and organizations of one sort or another employ a considerable number of physicians on full-time salaries. Hospital associations, group organizations operated by physicians and by laymen, and similar activities are employing constantly increasing numbers of physicians on salary, and so on through dozens of other activities.

With these facts before us, is it not purely an academic question as to whether or not it is ethical for a physician to work for salary compensation instead of a fee schedule?

#### MAKING A MOCKERY OF THE LAW

There are about 7000 persons who have passed the legal tests and are authorized by law to practice the healing art in the State of California. There are others who are practicing illegally. Not only is the law passively disregarded in this respect, but the majority of these law violators are open and aggressive in their denunciation of the law and in their disrespect for its provisions. Magazines, newspapers and other circulating media of information carry flaunting advertisements of fake claims from these fraudulent healers who are practicing in open violation of the law. This has become so extensive with such support by some elements of the public press, by officers of the law, that the laws of California are being made a mockery.

No other law, even including the Eighteenth Amendment, is being so widely violated and disregarded as the Medical Practice Act, and these violations are causing more injury to the public and to the lives and health of individual citizens than the violation of all other laws put together.

These law breakers are now asking the people of California to support them in their law violation by making their illegal acts legal.

#### MORE ABOUT INSURANCE

The recent editorials in the CALIFORNIA STATE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE have aroused extensive interest in the insurance world and are being broadcasted by the hundreds of thousands as reprints published and distributed by various insurance companies.

One result of this publicity has stimulated insurance companies that do not patronize the advertising pages of your own State Medical JOURNAL or other medical journals to increase the volume of their "direct-by-mail advertising." The advertising columns of the CALIFORNIA STATE JOURNAL OF MEDICINE are open to accredited insurance companies. All advertising matter of insurance companies in the columns of your JOURNAL has been submitted to qualified, disinterested insurance specialists and bankers, and no advertisement is accepted by your publication that has not the full endorsement of those competent to judge insurance values.

Our members surely will make no mistake by patronizing insurance or other advertisers who have passed censorship and have purchased space in your own publication.